

pain. All of this, astonishingly, at a weight of one ounce and a length of 4 inches. I believe that life begins at conception. I support adoptions, foster care, and crisis pregnancy centers. God knits every one of us together in our mother's wombs. Life is a miracle, and I believe that the right to it extends to the unborn in this country. That is why I strongly oppose this horrible bill.

#### CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention once again to the disastrous situation that President Biden has created at our southern border.

The first priority of any administration must be to protect the homeland and keep Americans safe. We have brave Border Patrol agents putting themselves in harm's way every day doing just that; and, meanwhile, their calls for a complete southern border security system are falling on deaf ears in Washington. They know that it would make their jobs easier and our country safer, and the funds are already appropriated. Why, then, is the administration forcing these agents, who deserve our unwavering support, to do their jobs with anything less than the most comprehensive technology available?

Across the globe from our southern border lies Afghanistan, where there exists yet another disastrous situation President Biden created. Make no mistake, the fall of Afghanistan to the Taliban is not an isolated problem in a land far, far away. The Taliban could redistribute their terrorists across the world in a matter of days, and our southern border is about as secure as a welcome mat, inviting terrorists who hate America to come and set up shop. President Biden didn't just torpedo the stability of Afghanistan last month, he also put Americans in danger, which highlights yet another need to address the southern border crisis immediately.

□ 1100

#### RECOGNIZING BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month, the time when we spread awareness of the signs and symptoms and seek increased research into treatment and prevention.

Northeast Florida is home to the headquarters of the Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation, which works to support and fund neurological research, training, and treatment for brain aneurysms, strokes, and other cerebrovascular conditions.

Its namesake is Trinity Love Hoblit, who was born with a rare form of primordial dwarfism and grew to only be 29 inches tall.

Throughout her life she battled brain aneurysms and underwent numerous surgeries to alleviate the symptoms.

Sadly, Trinity passed away in 2015 and was only 14 years old.

So in honor of Trinity and Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month, please listen carefully to the risk factors and signs and symptoms of brain aneurysm.

The risk factors include smoking, high blood pressure, older age, alcohol, or drug abuse, and family history. The symptoms include headache, pain above or behind one eye, blurred or double vision, difficulty speaking or swallowing, numbness or weakness on one side of the body, and seizures.

Folks, please do not ignore these symptoms and promptly seek medical care if you experience any of them, especially if you are having the worst headache of your life.

When it comes to brain aneurysms, awareness is the beginning of prevention and cure.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Florida, I am proud to recognize Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month, and I thank the Trinity Love Hoblit Foundation for the lives they are helping to save every day.

#### IMPROVING BENEFITS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, it has been 20 years since terrorists attacked the United States on September 11.

We have now had a generation to appreciate the courage and sacrifices so many of our first responders make to keep us safe.

In my 40 years of law enforcement, including 12 as sheriff of Duval County, I know good officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community.

Twenty years after 9/11, many of our first responders who are critically injured in the line of duty still have a hard time getting the benefits that they have earned and sacrificed.

That is why I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 2936, the Protecting America's First Responder Act.

This bill would improve death and disability benefits for police, firefighters, and other public safety officers.

This is a commonsense solution to a major problem, and I urge the Judiciary Committee to immediately consider this bill.

#### IRAN IS A THREAT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, yesterday at the United Nations General Assembly meeting, President Biden once again declared that he wants to ensure that Iran will never get a nuclear weapon on his watch. But he reiterated that his administration intends to do everything it can to get back into the discredited nuclear deal with Iran.

Now, Madam Speaker, this was his only reference directly about Iran in his remarks.

Today, I rise to remind my colleagues about the risks of this approach. Iran is the number one state sponsor of terrorism and the greatest threat against our ally, Israel, and to stability in the Middle East.

In July, I joined Chairman MEEKS and traveled to Israel in the first Congressional codel since the new Israeli government has come into power.

Despite the change in power and the coalition between the left and right, there is no space between the parties, and the number one national security concern in Israel continues to be Iran.

And while Republicans and Democrats agree in principle that Iran should never have a nuclear weapon, in action, the flawed nuclear deal of the Obama administration did not end Iran's quest. It only delayed modestly the development of a nuclear weapon; development that continues, Madam Speaker.

This deal kicked the can down the road in exchange for a windfall to the Iranian mullahs and sanctions relief and pallets of cash delivered on a tarmac.

Further, President Trump's maximum pressure campaign of economic sanctions was working, and he took decisive action with his strike against former IRGC head, Solemani.

So, my friends, I am afraid that we will return to the Obama-era policy of paying cash for promises from the Iranian leadership that will never be kept.

Iran has blood on their hands, proping up Assad in Syria, the death of American troops in Iraq, and recently even blatantly attempting kidnapping in New York City.

As a result, I reintroduced my legislation, the Holding Iranian Leaders Accountable Act.

This bipartisan bill with my friend Mr. LAWSON from Florida would make public the funds obtained in an illegal or corrupt manner by Iran's authoritarian leaders.

For more than four decades the people of Iran have lived under the brutal dictatorship of the Ayatollahs.

The government leadership and the heads of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps have all profited, Madam Speaker, at the expense of the struggling Iranian people.

By combining publicly available information with U.S. intelligence that can be made public, this legislation will provide a valuable window into the wealth making of Iran's corrupt officials and limit their financial holdings which are used to support and sponsor terrorism.

However, since this administration is attempting to re-enter nuclear negotiations, we throw away a lot of leverage. This bill gives the U.S. Government and Iranian people knowledge by knowing how corrupt their leadership is.

#### COMMEMORATING ERMA HENDRIX

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Little Rock City Director Erma Hendrix, who sadly passed away at the age of 91 on September 8.

Born and raised in Little Rock, Director Hendrix dedicated her life to public service. From serving as a nurse, to local government, to her philanthropic endeavors, she always put our community first.

Erma spent over 15 years representing her community as part of Little Rock City's Board of Directors representing Ward 1. Known for her passion, she spent her career fighting for racial equality and greater representation in city governance.

I value having the opportunity to work alongside Director Hendrix. I am grateful to have known her for so long and so favorably, and I know that the city of Little Rock is better for the service and work of Director Erma Hendrix. God rest her soul.

### HEARTBEATS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today on behalf of our Nation's unborn children, children, let me remind you, with heartbeats at 6 weeks, with fingers and toes at 10 weeks, and with the ability to feel and react to pain as early as 12 weeks. For too long, our Nation's leaders have tolerated the murder of millions of our precious children through cruel and painful abortions. Madam Speaker, this cruelty and insanity must stop.

Many States have passed legislation to protect both these unborn babies and their mothers, but my Democratic colleagues are actively attempting to undermine and overturn these protections through H.R. 3755, the Abortion on Demand Until Birth Act.

In addition, the bill disregards the conscience rights of millions of Americans. An Associated Press poll released in June of this year shows that up to 66 percent of adults believe abortions should be illegal in the second trimester and up to 81 percent in the third trimester. Yet H.R. 3755 is set in direct contradiction to the beliefs of the people as it allows for full-term abortions for any reason under the bill's all-inclusive health clause.

The abortion on demand bill is murder in the first degree.

Madam Speaker, it is impossible to justify the murder of a precious child in the womb. We all know that it is wrong to take innocent life, and no amount of slick talk will make it right.

The scientific community has made great advancements through modern medicine and patient care practices to extend longevity for those who could not otherwise survive on their own, both old and young.

At the time of *Roe v. Wade*, the average life expectancy for a man was close to 68 years and for a woman 75 years. Today, the average life expectancy is 78 years for men and nearly 83 for women. These are significant increases thanks to modern medicine.

Such scientific and medical advancements have also proven viability for many infants born as early as 21 weeks gestational age, a feat that was nearly impossible at the time of *Roe v. Wade* or *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. We also now know that a heartbeat exists at 6 weeks.

While science is ever improving, the moral and ethical considerations are crystal clear: To end an innocent human life is to end a heartbeat. That is murder.

I firmly believe that life begins at conception, and speaking objectively, I ask you this: What better scientific metric to determine the existence of life than the presence of a heartbeat? You have a heartbeat, and I have a heartbeat. We both are alive. A heartbeat means life. When a heartbeat ceases, then life ceases. So when a heartbeat is present, we know there is life. When two heartbeats are present, a mom and her child, we know there are two lives.

Madam Speaker, a heartbeat is a defining evidence of life.

A small child and an aged adult alike can both wrap their minds around the fact that a heartbeat equals life, and that to end a heartbeat is to end life.

This bill, H.R. 3755, ends heartbeats, so it ends life. The Declaration of Independence says: "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men . . ."

Life is the first of the unalienable rights mentioned in the Declaration of Independence. And to secure these rights, government is instituted. To protect life is our first responsibility. We cannot ignore this. We must not ignore this.

Therefore, I encourage my colleagues to reject H.R. 3755 and join me in standing for the sanctity of life, for the preservation of the most innocent heartbeats in America. *Soli Deo gloria*.

### STOP PRETENDING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CRENSHAW) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today because our border is still in crisis. I rise today to bring attention to the dereliction of duty by this President occurring at our southern border. Most of all I rise to ask this: Can we all stop pretending?

Can we stop pretending that this administration deserves any benefit of the doubt, pretending it is a tough situation beyond their control, pretending that this administration, and frankly, the entire Democratic Party have any intention of solving the border crisis. Stop pretending as if this isn't purposeful, because it is.

When every single policy measure that you partake in results in more il-

legal immigration, well, then it stands to reason using the powers of deduction that maybe you want more illegal immigration. So let's stop pretending otherwise.

And while we are at it, let's also stop pretending that more than a tiny fraction of those illegally crossing our border have any valid claims to asylum whatsoever. We all know it. We all know that they are coming because it is easy and because America is a pretty great place. We all know they were trained by their drug cartel handlers to repeat certain phrases that make them eligible for the asylum process so that they will be given a bus ticket and maybe a court date which they will never show up for.

Let's stop pretending that this isn't just a giant scam, a giant abuse of our well-meaning and generous system.

And also, let's stop pretending mass migration is America's fault. Let's stop pretending to listen to outlandish claims of climate change causing migration or the tired old refrain of, well, it is American imperialistic foreign policy or whatever, and so let's just let everybody in.

And let's stop pretending that this isn't getting exceedingly dangerous for us. It is dangerous for our border agents. It is dangerous for our border communities. It is dangerous for the children being trafficked. It is dangerous for everyday Americans.

At our border communities, crime is rising. There is greater insecurity. There is a spike in COVID cases. And the migrants, who I thought my friends on the other side of the aisle claim to care about, well, they are paying thousands of dollars to smugglers to take them on an exceedingly dangerous journey that often ends in children dead, stranded in the desert, or in the Rio Grande.

□ 1115

The only people who benefit from all of this are the drug cartels. They make money off the human misery by using asylum-seeking migrants to tie down the border agents so they can move their drugs with little to no risk. These smugglers aren't just bringing your generic pot. They are bringing fentanyl, bringing enough fentanyl to kill every single American.

Finally, let's stop pretending that the Democrats' pro-open border position has anything to do with compassion or kindness. There is nothing compassionate about tent cities, nothing compassionate about children being trafficked. There is nothing compassionate about firing American workers for not getting a COVID shot, putting them out on the street while illegal immigrants flood into our country without even a COVID test and then get treated to a bus ride or a hotel at the expense of the American taxpayer. And then, they probably get hired.

And guess what? There is nothing compassionate about allowing hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants to cut in front of millions of